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Today's Military Officer Faces New Challenges

CREWMEN VISIT SPECIAL FORCES—At Da Nang Air Base, Republic of Vietnam, U.S. Air Force Captain Richard M. Suter (left) and Major Stuart L. Lustfield, receive a briefing on mortar operations from U.S. Army Special Forces Captain Jerold Jensen and First Lieutenant Billy Burns (right).

Today's young military officer faces an "extremely difficult and complicated" job for a variety of reasons. For example, he faces the challenge of a vastly increased and rapidly changing technology and finds that military decisions, on any level, are no longer subject to the clear-cut evaluations of yesterday.

Secretary of the Navy John H. Chafee painted that picture of today's military officer for the graduating class at the U.S. Naval Academy.

He warned of "a certain amount of frustration" on the part of the military leader given the responsibility to bring an engagement to a successful conclusion, and said the military officer must be knowledgeable enough of national and international affairs, of global politics to understand the constraints within which he operates and to appreciate how his actions fit into the over-all picture.

Secretary Chafee then discussed a

(Continued on Page 7, Column 1)

Sec. Seamans Assesses ROTC Program, Notes Opportunities

Secretary of the Air Force Robert C. Seamans, Jr., has assured ROTC graduates, "Given the complexity of the military profession today, you'll find plenty of challenge, whether you're a pilot, deck officer, judge advocate, military manager or scientific specialist."

Speaking at the Harvard University Joint ROTC Commissioning Ceremony, June 11, Secretary Seamans assessed the ROTC program and noted opportunities for progression available to new officers.

Following are the Secretary's remarks:

As a nation and a people we face domestic problems that demand early and massive action if we are to make up for lost time. Of this there can be no question, and no lack of support. To deal adequately with these necessities, we must approach them with rationality and competence, products for which this university has long been honored. However, we cannot arbitrarily put aside other responsibilities in the world at large.

The pressing priorities at home, coupled with the war in Vietnam, have led to a challenge of our military institutions and practices. Thus, your three ROTC units have been a prime target during this tumultous year at Harvard. Many of the academic community question the place of ROTC in university education and the quality of its program. Others within and without the university, questioning the role of the military in our society, see the ROTC as a valuable part of the system they wish to attack. Particularly vocal in their demands for ending the military conflict in South Vietnam, they are so intent in their personal views that they cannot see that many

(Continued on Page 6, Column 1)

Adm. Moorer Notes Necessity To Maintain Freedom of Seas

In many ways, the United States is at what might be called an "oceanic crossroads," Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Thomas H. Moorer said.

Speaking before the Union League of Philadelphia, Admiral Moorer said, "We could be in danger of forfeiting our ability to exercise control of the seas should it become necessary."

He explained that the exercise of such control is, as it has been, "indispensable to the preservation of United States' interests in the world." He said we must maintain our freedom of the seas in order to be able to, "project our military power by sea when needed, protect the ocean commerce upon which we depend, sustain our allies and to protect the United States from attack through the sea."

Admiral Moorer said that our leadership on the seas has been, or is being, influenced principally by three things: "The across-the-board surge of Soviet sea power; the U.S. shipbuilding programs; and our use of the oceans and ocean resources."

He said some of the facts of life which we must regard with considerable concern are: "The Kremlin is supporting an impressive improvement program in the case of its underseas fleet, including the building of strategic submarines similar to those in our Polaris fleet.

"While most of their attack submarines are diesel powered an increasing number are nuclear powered and a vigorous building program is under way. The deployment of their submarine force onto the high seas has more than tripled in the past five years."

Admiral Moorer mentioned that as a result of the Kremlin decision to base what apparently is a permanent naval force in the Mediterranean, "a new Soviet surface capability has emerged. We are looking at young ships, expertly designed and equipped with highly sophisticated systems."

He pointed out that there are other factors, such as the revitalization of their naval infantry and the introduction of a helicopter carrier class, which are new and provide the muscle behind, "a lot of tough talk coming out of the Kremlin in recent months concerning their ascendency on the high seas."

He said the Soviets have been making an effort in all other aspects of sea power, including their merchant marine, shipbuilding, fishing fleet, and oceanographic programs.

"The rise of their Merchant Marine has been phenomenal. In 1950 they had 400 ships totalling 2 million tons. Today, we place the figures at 1400 ships and 10.6 million tons with a prediction that they may reach 25 million tons by 1980.

"In 1950 we had 1900 ships or 22 million tons. Since then we have suffered a decrease of 800 ships amounting to 7 million tons of sealift capability and today, we have only 1100 ships or 15 million tons.

"Thus, the Soviet fleet is young—our merchant fleet is aging and modernization must be accelerated if we are to meet the challenge."

Admiral Moorer said, their growing maritime strength gives the Soviets, "the capability of projecting their presence into countries where they formerly had no appreciable influence. My most recent information shows that their ships visit nearly 800 ports in about 100 countries on an annual basis.

"As with the other elements of their sea power, the Soviets are telling us by deeds that they are challenging us in all the oceans and that they are building sea power which can project their political and economic power as well as their military power."

He said, against the background of the Soviet "ocean vision," our national sea power picture, while still the greatest in the world, "is showing the affects of age, funding and rising costs."

He explained, saying, "Nearly 60 percent of our current fleet of 902 ships is 20 years old or more. In contrast, of the one thousand some surface combatants and submarines in the Soviet Navy, less than one quarter of one percent are over 20 years old.

"Without a balanced Navy, a revitalized merchant marine, modernized shipbuilding and repair facilities, and a progressive oceanographic program, we will find ourselves in real trouble."

ADMIRAL MOORER

VISITOR — RAdm. Frederick C. Turner, Chief of Naval Air Advanced Training in Corpus Christi, Tex. (left), is briefed by Capt. Wayne E. Hammett, Commanding Officer, USS Lexington CVS-16, on the day's flight schedule while the carrier was conducting advanced carrier qualifications in the Gulf of Mexico off Corpus Christi. During the visit the carrier recorded landing number 245,000, another new world's record.

DSA Director Cites Improved Concepts in Transportation

The concept and use of air transportation has undergone almost revolutionary change since the Berlin airlift (1948) proved to the world that a determined people with proper air support could sustain an entire city with all the goods and materials required to keep a city alive and well, for as long as necessary.

Air Force Lt. Gen. Earl C. Hedlund, director, Defense Supply Agency, made that observation recently in Antwerp, Belgium, when he addressed the National Defense Transportation Association's European Conference.

In addition, he noted that during World War II, Korea, and even until recently, the thought of deploying sufficient numbers of men to fight a major war on foreign soil would have been thought utter fantasy. "Yet, we are doing just that today. Virtually all United States troops overseas are moved there by air."

GENERAL HEDLUND

The director said much has been done in the transportation industry and in defense to speed the movement of men and materiel; and to protect that materiel while in transit from pilferage, rough handling and the elements. Also, that much has been done to more quickly and efficiently process the paperwork that must identify and record the shipment and receipt of both men and materiel.

On the subject of shipping, Gen Hedlund recognized that, despite innovative improvements made in the transportation field, 96 per cent of the cargo is moving by ship.

Roll-on-roll-off ships offer tremendous advantages to the movement of materiel promptly to the point of distribution in-country. Five of these ships are currently in operation and the number is expected to double by 1973. "By that time, 'roro' ships should be giving the containerized ships some real competition, and substantially improve the flexibility of movement available to a shipper," he said.

Speaking of intermodal containers, the general said he believes them to be "a significant improvement in materiel movement." There are plans for fast container ships of 30,000 deadweight tons, capable of 33 knots which will further improve the container concept of shipping.

Containers also have a beneficial effect on the morale of the combat forces.

"Use of containers has enabled us," the general said, "to provide our men in Vietnam a much more palatable and pleasing menu than any combat army has ever before received. One menu item in particular that container shipments to Southeast Asia have simplified is fresh corn-on-the-cob and another is fresh grapefruit. We are pleased to say that even front line troops have been afforded the opportunity to enjoy these items."

Statistics illustrative of the magnitude of the Defense Supply Agency's operations and its dependence on transportation were cited by the general:

1—There are approximately four million items in the Department of Defense portion of the Federal Supply Catalog. DSA manages 1.9 million of these.

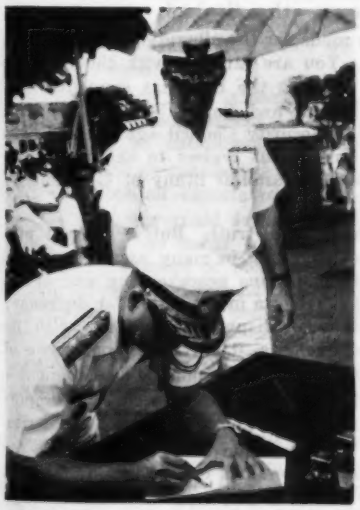
2—It will process 19.2 million requisitions during this fiscal year.

3—The value of materiel supplied to all of the United States military services during the year will amount to $3.8 billion.

4—About 2.5 million tons of materiel will move through the DSA depot system.

5—To support these demands, DSA will procure approximately $5.3 billion worth of food, medical, clothing, fuel, construction, electronics, industrial and general supplies.

6—In addition to these supply operations, DSA administers for the entire Department of Defense and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration some 249,000 prime and secondary contracts valued at more than $54 billion. Virtually every one of these contracts involves the transportation industry at some point in its life.



SIGNING FOR CRAFT — Commodore Tran Van Chon, Vietnamese Chief of Naval Operations, signs papers accepting two U. S. Coast Guard patrol boats at the Vietnamese Naval Base in Saigon as Capt. Ralph W. Niesz, Commander, U. S. Coast Guard Activities, Vietnam, looks on. This is the first time the U. S. Coast Guard has turned over such craft to the Vietnamese.

The United Nations

UP, DOWN, OR SIDEWAYS?

Twenty-four years ago this month, on June 26, 1945, the delegates of 50 nations signed the United Nations Charter. In a recent speech, Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs Samuel DePalma pointed out that the U.N. today is "a different kind of enterprise from what it started out to be in 1945."

At that time, he noted, the war against Germany was barely over and the war against Japan was going full blast. Those who drafted the Charter could hardly have been expected to foresee the beginning of the nuclar age even though it was only months away, let alone the other technological advances which rapidly followed, he said.

Below are excerpts from Mr. DePalma's address of May 12.

The thoughtful men and women who drafted the U.N. Charter . . . created an admirable political framework to support peaceful change—a framework based, of necessity, on the expectation of unity of purpose among the big powers. With the ensuing cold war, however, this supposed bedrock of cooperation soon turned into shifting sands of disunity and conflict.

And so, born during a hot war, nurtured during a cold war, growing up in a world of fantastic changes, the U.N., any way you look at it—up, down, or sideways—is a different kind of enterprise today from what it started out to be in 1945. Viewed against this background, it has worked rather well, despite all the changes in assumptions and circumstances, despite disunity of the major powers on many issues, despite many attempts to weaken its structure.

Up—Outer Space, Space Communications

In fact there is solid evidence for the view that the U.N. is on the way up, and not only in respect to the number of members, size of budgets, or increases in personnel and programs. It is in a literal sense looking up, far into outer space.

When nuclear weapons were invented, when ways were found to make artificial satellites circle the earth, when men began to fear that weapons of mass destruction might be placed in orbit—then these inventions mothered the necessity to do something. Since the problems were the concern of all, the U.N. was a logical place to work; and, happily, the work has been successful.

We are now protected against the threat of weapons of mass destruction being stationed in outer space. The credit goes to the U.N. Outer Space Committee, which negotiated the Outer Space Treaty of 1966. The Astronaut Rescue and Return Agreement of 1967 was also negotiated by this committee. Last year negotiations got under way on an outer space liability convention to provide a fair and expeditious way for determining damages and responsibility for any accidents caused by space objects.

A new outer space interest of the U.N. is space communications.

Down—the Seabed

A case can also be made for the allegation that the U.N. is on its way down. You are familiar with the charges: The organization is in debt; the U.N. has done little besides talk about Vietnam and South West Africa; the sanctions voted by the Security Council against Southern Rhodesia have not forced that regime to change course. . . . And so on, through a familiar litany of U.N. sins of omission and commission.

All of this may have some truth. But it has not prevented the U.N. from engaging in many useful activities. The organization still maintains peacekeeping and observation forces. It still provides a prime forum for diplomacy and for the mediation of disputes. Together with its family of specialized agencies, it carries on programs of agriculture, education, health, and economic development—programs which each year have grown in size and importance and reached more and more developing countries.

But why go on? The allegation that the U.N. is so far down as to be almost out reminds one of the story about the bumblebee. This insect does not appear to have enough wing area to get off the ground; but the bee doesn't know this and goes ahead and flies anyhow.

The U.N. has also been going down in a constructive way. In the past few years the General Assembly has devoted considerable attention to peaceful uses of the seabed, to ways to assure the harmonious exploitation of the potential riches to be found on ocean bottoms. The 23d General Assembly established a permanent Seabed Committee, which is presently trying to work out a list of basic principles to govern exploration and use of the seabed.

Next fall the General Assembly will be discussing the

SAMEUL DePALMA
Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs

results of the work of the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee, which has "seabed disarmament" as a priority item on its agenda.

Sideways—Peace, Disarmament, Development

Having taken a look at some of its ups and down, let us take a sideways look at where we can expect the U.N. to go from here.

One overriding issue is peacekeeping . . . There remain wide areas of disagreement on how peacekeeping operations should be authorized, administered, and financed.

The U.S.S.R. is adamant that the Security Council alone should control all aspects of peacekeeping. This Soviet view, if adopted, would deprive the Secretary General of the flexibility he needs in carrying out the executive functions in support of peacekeeping operations. As for financing, the Soviet refusal to pay the costs of most past peacekeeping operations has created uncertainty regarding future operations.

Nonetheless, there are some signs of a growing awareness on the part of the Soviet Union that U.N. peacekeeping or observation forces may be the most effective way of dealing with local disputes between smaller powers.

It seems obvious that a world of independent sovereign nations, most of them armed; a world of local enmities and regional tensions; a world in which superpowers are asked to choose sides and help the small nations settle old scores against each other—this kind of world represents a vast tinderbox, requiring just one spark to set it off. A duel between small adversaries, with the superpowers acting as seconds, could provide that kind of spark.

Recent studies . . . start from the premise that we and the Soviets share a common interest in using the U.N. to help stabilize local conflicts.

Three areas, in particular, are worth looking into.

The first is how to satisfy the Security Council's legitimate interest in maintaining control over an operation after it has been launched while, at the same time, protecting the Secretary General's executive flexibility to manage a peacekeeping operation.

A second is how to assure reliable arrangements for supplying troops and facilities, including the possibility of agreements between member states and the Security Council on terms and conditions for making troops available. Suggestions have been made that various nations earmark certain contingents and keep them available on a standby basis for service with the U.N. when needed and authorized.

The third area of concern is financing. Many ideas have been advanced, including that of a voluntary "peace fund," paid up in advance.

The central prerequisites for reinforcing the peacekeeping system are: first, a greater measure of big-power cooperation; and second, the development of attitudes throughout the world that national interests can be effectively pursued through the U.N. This will also involve the willingness of middle- and small-sized countries to contribute troops and other forms of support.

Closely related to peacekeeping is the question of disarmament. The ultimate goal remains what it has been for many years: general and complete disarmament. But there is not enough trust among nations and not enough experience with real disarmament to pursue this goal now. Progress is also retarded by the need to create mechanisms to guard against cheating where purely unilateral means are not deemed adequate.

Therefore, we have looked for places, even small ones, where progress might be made. We have already banned weapons of mass destruction from outer space. We have done the same for Antarctica. We have achieved a Limited Test Ban Treaty. We have negotiated a Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Improving U.N. Effectiveness

There are areas . . . in which the U.N. has made rapid progress. The U.N. and the specialized agencies conduct an impressive series of economic and social development programs in many countries.

One lesson stands out: Economic progress must in the end be measured on the basis of income per capita—and population growth which matches or exceeds growth in production of goods and services can nullify progress.

Rapid increases in population, and the fear that Malthus might be proved right, have caused individual nations and the U.N. itself to begin to act on programs of information and assistance in the field of family planning. Only recently have certain taboos been overcome. Only recently has the U.N. become involved with this delicate, vital, and complex field.

As we get ready for the U.N.'s 25th anniversary, it is not enough just to be vaguely in favor of the organization. We must try to find ways and means to improve the effectiveness of the U.N. in all areas.

We know the U.N. is good. Now is the time to make it better.

Sec. Seamans Assesses ROTC Program, Notes Opportunities

(Continued from Page 1)

leaders in and out of public office are working towards the same objective.

Having just returned from South Korea, South Vietnam, and Thailand, I was struck anew with certain basic facts we must face in Asia that we tend to forget. First, we have a U.S. presence in these mainland countries because as a nation we have believed that we have a continuing responsibility to work with them in the interest of our mutual security. Secondly, at the present time each of these countries is faced with infiltration and insurgency in varying degrees. South Vietnam has had to cope with outright aggression. Thirdly, we are working in each of these countries to help them train their people, both to defend themselves and to improve their civilian communities. While we hope and work for an early cessation of hostilities in South Vietnam, we cannot expect to help these peoples if we precipitously and unilaterally withdraw our forces. But we are now able to make a withdrawal of 25,000 men as announced by President Nixon at Midway earlier this week.

With regard to the question of military training on campus, I would first note that it is an honored tradition. It was not a general, but a democratic statesman and founder of the University of Virginia, Thomas Jefferson, who said:

> *"We must train and classify the whole of our male citizens, and make military instruction a regular part of collegiate education. We can never be safe until this is done."*

And it was our First Citizen, George Washington, who wrote at the end of the American Revolution:

> *"It may be laid down as a primary position, and the basis of our system, that every free Citizen who enjoys the protection of a free Government, owes not only a proportion of his property, but even of his personal services to the defense of it."*

Harvard men have long known this — the young Union Captain Oliver Wendell Holmes knew it in the Civil War, as did Theodore Roosevelt when he organized his Rough Riders. Those who signed up in one of the nation's first ROTC units here at Harvard a half-century ago knew it as did a Harvard man Norman Prince who organized the Lafayette Escadrille in the First World War. So did John F. Kennedy when he joined the Navy in World War II. And you know it, or you wouldn't be here today.

There appears to be the dual criticism that ROTC instruction is too narrowly professional, and that ROTC instructors are not professional enough. As to the first, all the ROTC programs gradually have been modified to stress academic value and increased usage of regular courses. Such modifications in course substitution, adjustments of credits, leadership laboratory, summer training, and two-year versus four-year programs have given our Air Force ROTC the flexibility it must have to operate on 175 campuses. However, I am certain that as the program evolves still further improvements will become apparent and will be made.

As to the second criticism — that ROTC instructors are not professional enough — let me note that they are all officers of proven military professional experience. Ninety-nine per cent have been to our professional service schools, and all have been through rigorous academic instructor training. Twenty-five per cent of Air Force instructors now hold graduate degrees and we hope to increase that figure.

"The officer who can combine his specific skill with the broad understanding derived from a liberal education will always stand out."

The ROTC tries to blend the best tradition of military service with the humanitarian traditions and academic resources of American colleges and universities. It is highly desirable that many of our young officers come from a civilian academic environment, while receiving simultaneously a military education. You ROTC graduates, with your varied university experiences, academic disciplines, and regional and social backgrounds, provide a continuing infusion of educational experience and civilian values into the armed forces. This helps insure that our military establishment will remain representative of the society it defends, and provides the balance of skills needed to solve the problems we face in the world today.

You will find when you begin your active duty with the Armed Forces that the diverse backgrounds of your fellow officers are an aid and a stimulus to all — whether one hails from a privately endowed university, a large state university, a Service Academy or one of many other types of colleges.

Given the complexity of the military profession today, you'll find plenty of challenge, whether you're a pilot, deck officer, judge advocate, military manager or scientific specialist. The officer who can combine his specific skill with the broad understanding derived from a liberal education will always stand out. For those of you who decide to stay in the Service, the road to advancement is broad and uncrowded. With the retirement of many of the World War II and Korean War generation of officers, promotion — even more important, responsibility — will come faster than has been the case in years. And I believe you will find great satisfaction — *all* of you, those who make a career of it, and those who don't — in fulfilling your public trust to this nation. Good luck to *all* of you.

General McConnell Says Military Welcomes Constructive Criticism

The American people must realize that we are not in an "arms race" but in a "peace race," a race designed to move aggressors toward successively lower levels of conflict.

That is the way Gen. John P. McConnell, Air Force Chief of Staff, would like to see it, but instead, he finds the prevailing public attitude toward the military and toward defense-oriented organizations in general somewhat negative.

He told the 103rd Annual Convention of the Mississippi Press Association, in Biloxi, Miss., June 6, that attitude is running colder than would seem to be justified by any realistic appraisal of either the threat to the U.S. or the proven performance of the so-called military-industrial complex in helping to meet that threat.

General McConnell emphasized, however, that the military continues to welcome all the constructive criticism that can be obtained on the defense establishment's approach to the complex problem of developing, procuring and operating advanced weapon systems which are now in prospect.

"We have a far greater need for suggestions that can help us than for unqualified praise that could make us complacent," the general said.

The Air Force's Chief of Staff also made the following points:

—Much of the criticism which comes in our direction these days appears to stem from frustration about the Vietnam war and its drain on our human and material resources. Certainly, there is nothing original about this type of criticism. It has been voiced in some form and to some degree every time this country was compelled to protect its interests by force of arms.

—With respect to the conflict in Southeast Asia, it appears to me that much of the current dissent is founded on the erroneous conviction that the outcome in Vietnam has little or no bearing on our own national security. As a matter of fact, I have heard little discussion and have seen less editorial comment on this issue for a long period of time.

—On a broader scale, there appears to be a growing number of Americans who fail to understand that liberty is not a guaranteed right but a privilege that must be earned over and over again. But that fact, an irrefutable lesson of history, is one of the reasons why Americans are in Vietnam today.

—Our men are fighting in Southeast Asia in support of the same basic aims that we have had in all conflicts since winning our independence. We have fought in all these campaigns and wars — not to achieve gains but to prevent loss, not to support war abroad but to protect peace at home, not to impose our way of life on others but to prevent others from imposing theirs on us.

—Since the end of World War II, there have been over 100 armed conflicts of international significance. We were directly involved only in those that threatened our national interests or those of our allies.

Today's Military Officer Faces New Challenges

(Continued from Page 1)

new problem facing the military officer.

Following are his remarks on the subject:

Recently there has appeared a whole new problem for professional officers to face—namely a deluge of criticism associated with the high cost of military equipment and the supposed unlimited powers of the military in association with the industrialists.

This so-called complex is being hotly taken to task for a variety of reasons—dissatisfaction with an unpopular war, objections to our international commitments, and the cost to honor them, an increasing consciousness of other national needs, the cost of defense.

As officers I believe it well for you to be prepared to understand this criticism, to appreciate that it isn't just a temporary phenomenon. I believe it especially important that we all understand the greater awareness in our country to meet the needs of health and housing, education and an improved environment, all of which lead to intensified competition for a share of the national budget.

There exist these legitimate pressing national demands but at the same time without freedom all our increased social consciousness would be for naught. Thus it is urgent that we have rational discussion on how much defense is enough.

You have the challenging job of providing this adequate defense and justifying the expenditures to a nation with many priorities. To do this successfully will require that you constantly strive to analyze our military policies to see if they conform to the realities as they exist in a changing world or whether they are built on requirements of the past.

You will have to appreciate that we cannot afford all weapons that our technology can produce and that our military requirements cannot absorb an undue proportion of our resources.

To make the choice as to what should be adopted and what shouldn't be is extremely difficult—it requires considerable knowledge and considerable moral courage — an ability to evaluate and a willingness to choose.

In choosing it will require that you rise above any service parochialism and keep as your goal not what's best for the Navy but what's best for this old nation of ours.

COMMANDERS DIGEST

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To Live Or Die In The Great Adventure For Freedom

"God gives freedom to a people in just the portions they deserve," said Gen. Creighton W. Abrams, Commanding General, U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam. Following is his address during Chapel Memorial Services at MACV Headquarters:

We are here today to honor the sacrifices of all those who have served in our Armed Forces. It began almost two hundred years ago when our forefathers sat down and wrote the Declaration of Independence. Its concluding paragraph says:

"We therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, that these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown and that all political connection between them and the States of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which Independent States may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence. We mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor."

A few years later in Philadelphia, our constitution was drafted and its preamble said:

"We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

The essence of these documents is Freedom-Liberty.

God gives freedom to a people in just about the portions they deserve. History will tell you that only those people can be free and remain so who are willing to pay the price. Every generation receives a torch of freedom from the past. Whether it burns brighter, flickers, or dies depends on those who carry it. Our forefathers emigrated to America for many different reasons. But underlying most of those reasons was the compulsion to be free. For some it was freedom to worship God according to the dictates of their own consciences. For others it was freedom to accumulate earthly goods in a free economic society. Some wanted political freedom. Others wanted an opportunity to salvage the remnants of their lives in a new environment. Many others came for a combination of these reasons or for all of them. But they were willing to pay the price: To live or die in the great adventure for freedom. The price was high to open up the land, to push back the frontiers and to establish a system of government and law so their children could derive the fruits of their sacrifices.

"Not gold, but only men can make
A people great and strong;
Men who, for truth and honor's sake,
Stand fast and suffer long.
Brave men, who work while others sleep,
Who dare while others fly—
They build a nation's pillars deep
And lift them to the sky."

Ralph Waldo Emerson in these words has described th men we honor today.

Lest we think that this is a message from the pas without application to the present, let me quote a lett I received not too long ago from a mother whose son wa killed in action in Vietnam:

"Your kind expression of sympathy in the recent lo of my son in Vietnam is deeply appreciated.

"Although only time and God's love can ease the pa of so great a loss, it is comforting to know that othe share our sorrow. Of even greater comfort is the know edge that Bill died an honorable death defending th freedom we enjoy and all too often take for granted. It is my prayerful hope that his life, as well as the lives o so many others, has not been given in vain."

There are two seas in Palestine. One is fresh, and fi are in it. Splashes of green adorn its banks. Trees spre their branches over it, and stretch out their thirsty roo to sip of its healing waters. Along its shores the childr play, as children played when the Lord was there. H loved it. He could look across its silver surfaces when h spoke his Parables. And on a rolling plain not far aw he fed five thousand people. The River Jordan gives th sea life with sparkling water from the hills. Men bu their homes near to it, and birds build their nests; a every kind of life is happier because it is there. The Ri Jordan flows south into another sea. Here there is splash of fish, no fluttering leaf, no song of birds, children's laughter. Travelers choose another route, unl on urgent business. The air hangs heavy over the wa and neither man nor beast nor fowl will drink. Wh makes this mighty difference in these neighbor seas? It the River Jordan! It empties the same good water i both. Not the soil in which they lie! It is the same the country around both. This is the difference! The of Galilee receives but does not keep the water from Jordan. For every drop that flows into it another flo out. The other sea is shrewder, hoarding its income j ously. It will not be tempted into any generous impu Every drop it gets, it keeps. The Sea of Galilee gives lives. The other sea gives nothing. It is named the De Sea. As there are two seas in Palestine, so there are kinds of people in this world.

Let me close this with a thought expressed in the fo of a prayer.

"O Lord, lest I go my complacent way,
Help me to remember
That somewhere out there a man
Died for me today.
So long as there be war
I must ask and answer,
Am I worth dying for?"

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